(c) if so, the loan sanctioned and progress of work done so far?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) Yes, sir. The proposal was recommended to the Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance for consideration.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The Department of Economic Affairs later informed that the proposal could not be included in the long list submitted to the Government of Japan for OECF loan package.

(d) The proposal was not included thereafter because Government of Japan imposed economic sanctions after the Pokharan Tests conducted by India in May, 1998.

(e) Does not arise.

Restoration of Monuments in Andhra Pradesh

142. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal to involve the corporate bodies in the maintenance of centrally protected monuments in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have any proposal to sign an MoU for the restoration of centrally protected monuments in Andhra Pradesh; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The National Culture Fund (NCF) enables private individuals/ agencies/corporates to fund projects for the conservation of monuments which are executed by the Archaeological Survey of India alone. However, creation of tourist-related facilities and improvement

of the environment around centrally protected monuments can be promoted directly by these agencies under terms and conditions laid down by the Archaeological Survey of India and subject to its overall control and supervision.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Question does not arise.

Funds allocated and utilised to boost tourism in H.P.

†143. SHRI ANIL SHARMA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the projects granted approval in order to boost the tourism in Himachal Pradesh during the last three years;

(b) the quantum of amount allotted for the purpose and utilised out of the same; and

(c) the progress achieved in the projects to complete them?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) Forty six projects for infrastructure development, information technology and fairs and festivals were sanctioned during the last three years to boost tourism in Himachal Pradesh.

(b) Rs. 1404.58 lakhs have been sanctioned for these projects and Rs. 794.84 lakhs have been released so far.

(c) 11 projects have been completed and 3 projects have been dropped. Utilization Certificates are awaited for the remaining projects.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.